

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8, 2005, MEETING OF THE CITYLINK ADA ADVISORY BOARD

A meeting of the CityLink ADA Advisory Board was held in the conference room at CityLink Transit, 1189 S. 2nd St., Abilene, Texas on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. Brigitte Lett – Board Chairperson called the meeting to order, the following members were present:

Brigitte Lett

James Shepard

Shirley Hudson

David Alcala

Also present and attending the meeting were: General Manager Amy Foerster, and Special Services Administrator Bobby Sharpe. Members not present include: David Barnhill, Pam Barnhill, and Patsy Daniel.

Board reorganization was discussed. Ms. Foerster informed the Board that she administered the Oath of Office to Brigitte Lett for reappointment to the Board prior to the meeting. Two other reappointments were to be completed with the Oath of Office for David Barnhill and Patsy Daniel but they are not present. A new appointment to the Board, Bill Daniel, was to be completed today but he is not present.

Ms. Foerster stated that she had met with State Representative Randy Neugebauer while in Washington D.C. a couple of months ago. Mr. Neugebauer seemed very interested in our Evening Service. Ms. Foerster asked Mr. Neugebauer for another \$100,000 JARC funding for the Evening Service, funding to purchase four additional para-transit vans, and funding for the second phase of the Sun Set Stages land acquisition. The second phase would include some demolition on the property in addition to paving and fencing of the property for parking of the transit vehicles. Funding to purchase the land has already been acquired. Ms. Foerster is currently completing CityLink's federal grant which has been increased and will cover an increase in all operating expenses. With the remaining grant money, CityLink will be refurbishing the passenger lobby restrooms to meet ADA requirements and then paint the passenger lobby. State funding figures have not been released as of this date but Ms. Foerster has been advocating against an anticipated decrease in State funding. CityLink's annual budget has been submitted to the City of Abilene. Ms. Foerster informed the Board, Special Services Administrator Bobby Sharpe has been completing an application for a Community Development Block Grant and an application for a grant from the Workforce Development Board. Both grants would be used as local match funding for the JARC grant.

Ms. Foerster reported to the Board CityLink's Evening Service ridership for the month of May 2005 has increased over 14% as compared to the current month last year. Ridership for this fiscal year to date has increased 16% from last year. Ms. Foerster remarked on the continued growth of the Evening Service over the last couple of months with some months reporting over 30% growth as compared to the same month last year. Ms. Foerster shared with the Board some success stories of Evening Service passengers. Revenue for the current month has decreased by over 72%, compared to this month last year and the revenue for the fiscal year to date has also decreased over 74%. The decrease in revenue is due to last year's revenue included monies from the Department of Human Services for the Local Innovation Transportation Program.

Ms. Foerster discussed with the Board CityLink's ridership statistics covering the eighth month, May 2005, of the fiscal year 2005. Fixed route ridership for the current month has increased by over 10% compared to this month last year, reporting 42,189 passengers during the month of May 2005. Passenger revenue for fiscal year to date has increased over 6% as compared to fiscal year to date last year. Demand response passenger trips equaled 7,722 for the month of May 2005, a decrease of over 4% as compared to May 2004 subsequently, fiscal year to date has decreased also by over 10% compared to 2004. Passenger trips for the fiscal year to date totals 59,334 whereas fiscal year to date last year was 66,381. Revenues for May 2005 were \$5,307 and revenues from May 2004 were \$5,402, which is a decrease of over 1%. Revenue for fiscal year to date is down over 62% as compared to last fiscal year to date. Evening service ridership has increased by over 14% showing 1,496 passenger trips for the month of May 2005 as compared to 1,312 passenger trips for the month of May 2004 and is also increased for fiscal year to date by over 16%. Revenue for May 2005 was \$1,444 and revenue for May 2004 was \$4,790, which is a decrease of over 69%. Revenue for the fiscal year to date has decreased over 61% compared to last year.

Ms. Foerster gave a status report of CityLink's Charter Service. For the month May 2005, CityLink's Charter Service had 205 passengers compared to May 2004 which had 0 passengers.

Ms. Foerster explained to the Board the status of the Capital Vehicle Replacement Program. CityLink sent the purchase order for 5 new para-transit vans approximately one month ago. The new bus specifications are currently being completed. These specifications are for 5 new buses. A year after receiving the new buses, 5 more will be ordered which will allow time to evaluate the effectiveness of the vehicles.

Ms. Foerster informed that Board that she has proposed a fare increase to the City of Abilene. The last fare increase was October 1992. Factors involved in the proposed fare increase include the rising fuel costs and normal inflation.

Ms. Foerster mentioned CityLink's vinyl bus advertising program is awaiting approval from the City.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

The minutes approved this _____ day of _____.

Chairperson, CityLink ADA Advisory Board